

ROOSEVELT'S HAT  
IN RING TOO LATE

So Frank A. Munsey Is Said to Have Replied to New Hampshire Man's Appeal for Information.

## COLONEL'S DELAY FATAL

Publisher Asks Concord Alderman to Give Out Complete Copy of Letter, Saying Facts Were Garbled—Calls Report "Utterly False."

A published report from Concord, N. H., yesterday that a letter had been received from Frank A. Munsey, one of the staunchest of the Roosevelt supporters, which represented him as saying that "the colonel had entered the race too late and that President Taft had clinched the nomination," resulted in Mr. Munsey's making the entire correspondence public last night.

Mr. Munsey said in the letter, which was written in reply to a request for an opinion on the situation from Alderman Fred I. Blackwood, of Concord, that "on the face of it it looks like Taft," and "that Mr. Roosevelt's followers got started much too late is a certainty." But he also declared that Mr. Roosevelt was an exceptional man, who had the people with him, that the people were freer of politicians than ever before and that it was "going to be very pretty contest."

This letter may be taken as a frank summing up of the situation from the point of view of a man who has been in the situation from the start and is in a position to make a careful analysis. Mr. Munsey understood that the letter was purely personal and was indignant that anything in regard to it should have been given out for publication.

## Roosevelt Started Too Late.

When Mr. Munsey was asked last night why he had stated in his letter to Mr. Blackwood that the Roosevelt followers got started too late Mr. Munsey replied:

Because that is the fact. It is obvious that the men interested in seeing Mr. Roosevelt nominated would do nothing definite until they received the assurance from Mr. Roosevelt that he would accept the nomination if it came to him. Without this assurance nothing really could be done.

Asked why it was that Colonel Roosevelt was so late in arriving at a decision to become the candidate of his party if the nomination came to him, Mr. Munsey replied:

It was not until he had become convinced, by the many letters he received, by the straw ballots throughout the country, which showed overwhelmingly for him, and by the tender of the governors of the different states that he ought to express his willingness to serve the people. Up to the time he felt positively sure about the sentiment of the people he steadfastly refused to make any move looking toward an acceptance of the nomination if it came to him. This is not an idle answer. It carries the accuracy of one perfectly familiar with the situation all the while.

Mr. Munsey's letter to Mr. Blackwood is as follows:

Mr. Fred I. Blackwood, Concord, N. H.: Dear Sir: Answering your letter of February 5, which went to Boston and was forwarded me some time ago, there is not much of a definite answer that I can say. In fact, no one can predict with any certainty the outcome of the contest for the nomination. On the face of it, it looks like Taft, as he has the organization of the country, the support of the army and navy, and is surrounded by the money forces of the country. This looks like an almost insurmountable combination to overcome, but against it stands a very exceptional man, who has the people with him. To whatever extent they will be able to make effective their wishes, no one at this point can give an intelligent answer. It is certain that the people themselves are freer from the politicians than ever before, and it is going to be a very pretty contest to see whether they assert themselves and compel the politicians, or whether the politicians are dominant in the future.

That Mr. Roosevelt's followers got started much too late is a certainty, but they could hardly be expected to see the point where he was willing to say he would accept the nomination if it came to him.

Yours very truly,  
FRANK A. MUNSEY.

March 9, 1912.

"How have you arrived at the conclusion that the people themselves are freer from the politicians than ever before?" Mr. Munsey was asked. He replied:

It is an obvious certainty that the people are freer from every kind of tyranny and every kind of interference with their rights than they have been for many years. They think and act as independent beings, and unless I am very much mistaken will show some of this independence of thought and action in the coming political struggle.

Explaining how he came to take so keen an interest in the campaign Mr. Munsey said:

It is with me simply a question of citizenship and doing my part as a citizen. A serious responsibility rests upon us in this respect—far more serious than we are wont to think. The millions are the worth-while people; not the entrenched forces, politicians, capitalists or the favored few.

Roosevelt's Real Strength.

Mr. Munsey's letter was written in response to one sent to him on February 5, in care of "The Boston Journal," in which Mr. Blackwood said he would like "some information of the real strength of ex-President Roosevelt, that of Taft and also of La Follette—a candid opinion from you whom many of us believe must give us the benefit of your observations. If you can consistently give me any information on the subject, or why you or your paper believes that the Roosevelt movement is gaining strength," Mr. Blackwood ended, "It would be much appreciated by a good many in New Hampshire, who would like to see Mr. Roosevelt President again."

About the time yesterday that Mr. Munsey learned of the published report that a letter from him was in the hands of a Concord man, he received the following letter:

Roosevelt Republican League of New Hampshire.  
Concord, N. H., March 14, 1912.  
Frank A. Munsey, Esq., New York City, N. Y.

My Dear Mr. Munsey: It is alleged here in this city that one of the millions are the worth-while people; not the entrenched forces, politicians, capitalists or the favored few. Will you kindly inform us if you have

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## MRS. BEECKMAN LORILLARD.

Well known in society in Newport, Asheville and this city, who hanged herself yesterday.

(Photo copyright by the Campbell Studio.)



## SHOT BY CLARK, ASKS JOB

Speaker's College Mate Suggests Cabinet Place, If—

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Norwalk, Ohio, March 16.—"Wouldn't I make a good Secretary of War? I invite your consideration for the post when you are making up your Cabinet," writes Ezra Webb, a farmer and teacher of Norwalk township, jokingly to Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Representatives and candidate for President.

Here is why Webb thinks he merits Clark's attention:

Both were attending a small Kentucky college, where the boys conducted their own commissary department, taking turns. One day while Clark was on the job, Webb complained of the food, and Clark resented it.

Webb, a tall, wiry, muscular fellow, hit Clark a blow that sent him sprawling. Quick as a flash, Clark reached for a gun and fired, the bullet grazing the fleshy part of Webb's hip.

The matter was hushed up and Clark left the college. Since then the two have become the best of friends.

## ATWOOD TO CROSS OCEAN

Newfoundland to Ireland in Two Days His Boast.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Boston, March 16.—Harry N. Atwood has his plans about completed for a flight across the Atlantic. Atwood will use a Burgess-Wright hydro-aeroplane, one that has been sufficiently tried to prove its worth. It will have a number of new features, which the aviator has devised to meet such emergencies as can be foreseen.

Atwood says the journey from Newfoundland to Ireland will take not more than two days. He will start from Boston and thinks he will reach Newfoundland in about a day.

The plan is to fly at a high altitude, and, as the aviator's range of vision will be extensive, he holds that with the number of craft flying the Atlantic he will be within sight of some vessel all the time. Atwood will begin the trip as soon as possible after June 15. The best time for aerial work is between that date and July 15, as the atmospheric conditions are then most favorable for flying eastward.

## FAVORS RECALL OF JUDGES

Secretary of N. Y. U. Law School Discusses Theme at Dinner.

Leslie J. Tompkins, secretary of the New York University Law School, said last night he was in favor of the recall of judges. Mr. Tompkins made the statement to thirty-five men and women, members of the class of '12, at the law school's annual dinner, held at the Hotel Manhattan.

In Mr. Tompkins' opinion, so long as a judge presided upon the bench and used his power to the best of his ability, he should be let alone, but when he made decisions which were unjust he should be removed by popular vote. Mr. Tompkins said in part:

We are hearing a large number of words on the subject of the recall. You will find people everywhere condemning the recall. What is the recall? I don't know. My idea is this, however: That the people will have the right to recall from any office any one for whom they feel a breach of duty on his part. If it is confined to that I don't see why it should not be used. If you can give me any good reason why the recall used in that manner is not good I would like to hear it.

## BLAZES IN FIFTH AVENUE

Fire in Electric Conduit Blows Off Manhole Covers.

Smoke was seen issuing from a manhole cover at the southwest corner of 23d street and Fifth avenue shortly after 7 o'clock last night by Patrolman Mancini. He sent in a call for Engine Company 14, but the firemen were unable to extinguish the blaze. The New York Edison Company and the Electric Light and Power Company were told of the disturbance and emergency wagons were hurried to the scene.

Meanwhile, several manhole covers had blown off, flames were shooting from one of the pits, lights along Fifth avenue between 23d and 24th streets had gone out and several stores were in darkness. It was an hour before the employees of the electric companies succeeded in getting at the seat of the trouble, during which time the service in the district was cut off.

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THE MAINE SINKS  
TO RISE NO MORE

Battleship Goes Down in Gulf with Colors Flying, and Her Dead Start Homeward on the North Carolina.

## NAVY'S GUNS HER REQUIEM

Fighting Craft of United States and Cuba Stand By as Waves Embosom the Shattered Hulk—Decks Covered with Flowers.

Havana, March 16.—Under lowering skies and in a heavy tumbling sea, the old battleship Maine, resurrected after fourteen years' burial in Havana Harbor, plunged, with her colors flying, to her final rest six hundred fathoms deep in the sapphire waters of the Gulf. The sinking of the hulk was carried out precisely as planned, marking the end of the great work begun more than a year and a half ago.

After imposing ceremonies in the morning, which ended with the formal transfer of the custody of the bodies of the heroic dead by the Mayor of Havana, Julio de Cardenas, to Brigadier General W. H. Bixby, chief of the engineer corps of the United States army, and the representative of the United States, the coffins were taken aboard the armored cruiser North Carolina, where they were deposited on the quarterdeck, completely covered by a great mound of floral tributes, under a guard of honor composed of marines. Minute guns were fired by the North Carolina and the scout cruiser Birmingham and the batteries of Cuban fortress until the ships cleared the harbor.

Soon after 2 o'clock the navy tug Osceola, aboard of which were the United States Minister, Arthur M. Beaupre, and the staff of the legation; Brigadier General Bixby, Colonel William M. Black, Lieutenant Colonel Mason M. Patrick and Major Harley B. Ferguson, constituting the Maine commission, passed lines to the stern end of the wedge-shaped wreck and started seaward. Two flanking tugs attached lines to either end of the bulkhead, which then became the afterpart of the hulk, for the purpose of steadying and steering her.

## Decks Strewn Deep with Flowers.

Her decks covered deep with flowers and palms and a great American ensign floating from the juremast, where the mainmast formerly stood, the Maine put to sea on her last voyage. On deck stood Captain John O'Brien, famous as "Dynamite Johnny," skipper of the filibustering steamer Dauntless and Three Friends, acting as the Maine's last pilot. As the wreck passed the American squadron, the crews manned the rails, the marines presented arms, the scarlet coated bandmen on the quarterdeck played the national anthem, while minute guns boomed a requiem.

The progress was necessarily slow. Half an hour later the North Carolina and the Birmingham got under way and the Cuban gunboats Hatuey, Yara, Enrique Villendas and 20 de Octubre; the United States engineers' steam dredge Barnard, carrying all the men who had worked on the cofferdam; a steamer with the Havana Camp, Spanish-American War Veterans, aboard; Commodore Carbonell's yacht Gypsy, with the Havana chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and a great fleet of tugs and chartered vessels.

Passing out of the harbor, no salutes were fired, the flotilla, headed by the Maine, proceeding in silence with all flags at half-mast. The course was almost due north, so as to keep the wreck head-on to the heavy sea, and thus avoid the danger of falling into the trough.

At 4:35 o'clock a three whistle blast from the North Carolina, followed by one gun, announced that the three-mile limit had been crossed. Half an hour was permitted to elapse, awaiting the arrival of the laggards of the fleet. Then the American cruisers took up a position to the eastward of the wreck, the Cuban warships moved to the westward, and the accompanying vessels were grouped to the north and south.

In the mean time the wrecking crew went aboard the hulk and made ready to carry out the arrangements for the sinking, which consisted of opening numerous valves in the bottom, operated from the deck, the large sluiceways in the bulkhead and all the doors in the two permanent bulkheads remaining in the ship.

## The Valves Thrown Open.

Precisely at 5 o'clock another whistle sounded from the North Carolina, and another gun was fired. The crew instantly threw open the valves and, with Captain O'Brien, jumped aboard a tug alongside, which steamed a little distance away. Then all eyes in the great fleet were fixed on the wreck, the crews of the warships lining the rails. All was silence but for the wash of the heavy seas.

For ten minutes no change was visible in the trim of the great, rusted, battered hulk, which pitched heavily as the huge rollers struck her. Then she was seen to be sinking at the bulkhead end. Soon the waves began to wash over her deck. As she remained pitching and wallowing, each moment settling deeper and deeper, the stern was seen to rise. In a few seconds the hulk was almost vertical, showing first the propellers and then the full keel. The next moment there was a flash of blue and white, as the great ensign flying from the mast struck the waves and disappeared. Simultaneously the decks were blown up by the air pressure, and with incredible velocity the Maine plunged down, leaving no trace save flowers tossing on the surface of the sea.

The silence was broken by whistle blasts from the whole fleet, which was the only salute. Ten minutes later the Cuban flagship Hatuey fired a farewell national salute to the squadron. Both

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## JUDGE OTTO A. ROSALSKY.

A bomb sent to him at his home exploded in his library, when opened by Owen Egan, of the Fire Prevention Bureau, who had been sent for by Mr. Rosalsky to inspect a mysterious package. Egan was badly wounded.



OWEN EGAN.

Assistant Inspector of the Fire Prevention Bureau, who was seriously injured by the explosion of a bomb sent to Judge Rosalsky. Photograph taken after his wounds were dressed.

(Copyright by Powers Engraving Company.)

FOUR ARRESTS FOLLOW  
HOLD-UP ON BANK CORNER

Girl Cashier Bait Trap Dougherty Lays with "Cops" Posing as Pedlers and Sweepers.

## SHE IDENTIFIES ONE MAN

Other Victims Recognize Three Prisoners with Bad Records, According to Police—One Man Held as Witness.

Pushcart men and street sweepers were never so thick before as they were yesterday noon at Spring street and the Bowery. There were more chestnut vendors, too, than usual, but a strange thing that might have been noted by an especially close observer was that they did not care a great deal whether they sold their wares or not. The street sweepers did not seem to care about covering a great deal of ground, but scrubbed and scrubbed away in front of the entrance of the Germania Bank until the cobblestones began to look as polished as the proverbial rolling stones.

Just before noon a slightly built, dark and pretty girl came out of the door of the bank carrying a handbag over her arm. She hugged the bag closely to her body and looked about nervously before descending the step to the sidewalk. There was a crowd passing, and she finally mingled with it and started to walk west in Spring street, still guarding her handbag carefully.

She had taken only a few steps when there was a rush of feet, a scuffle and two men dashed away. "Oh! Oh! They have taken my handbag!" the girl cried, holding up the leather thong by which she had carried it slung over her arm. Then a strange thing happened. Pedlers and pushcart men, and even the street sweepers polishing the stones, suddenly displayed the "greatest combination of alertness, chivalry and agility that ever was known to come to the aid of a maiden in distress. Every one of them likewise proved to have a pistol in his hip pocket, despite the Sullivan law, and their guns began to crack as they took up the pursuit of four men who broke away from the crowd centering about the screaming girl. Pedlers and sweepers alike were Headquarters detectives, waiting there for just such a thing to happen as did happen.

## Trap Baited at "Hold-up Corner."

Bowery and Spring street has become known as "hold-up corner" on Saturday noons, owing to the number of robberies there during the last few weeks. A gang had learned that it was the custom of a number of business men to send their cashiers to the bank at that hour each week to draw out funds to pay their employees. These cases were reported to the police, and Commissioner Dougherty laid a trap yesterday, disguising his detectives as pedlers and

Continued on second page.

BOMB EXPLODES  
IN LIBRARY OF  
JUDGE ROSALSKY

He Narrowly Escapes with Life, While Expert Is Seriously Injured.

## APARTMENT HOUSE EXCITED

Report Is Distinctly Heard in All Parts of Hendrick Hudson, and Tenants Rush Out in Fear.

## PACKAGE SENT BY MAIL

Owen Egan, of the Fire Prevention Bureau, Hurt While Examining It—Judge Blames Newspapers for Sending of Machine.

Judge Otto A. Rosalsky, of the Court of General Sessions, who has figured largely in the Brandt case proceedings, escaped with his life yesterday afternoon by the barest chance, when a bomb, sent through the mails in a paper box, exploded in the library of the Judge's home, at the Hendrick Hudson Apartments, 110th street and Riverside Drive, while the judge stood at a telephone a few feet away.

Pieces of metal from which the bomb was fashioned were sent hurtling about the room, tearing holes through the woodwork and beating a fusillade all about the spot where Judge Rosalsky stood. Although the judge escaped without any injury of any kind, Owen Egan, assistant inspector in the Bureau of Fire Prevention, into which the Bureau of Combustibles has been merged, who was opening the infernal machine when it exploded, was seriously injured. One of his fingers was blown off, and countless pieces of broken glass punctured the skin on his face and narrowly missed his eyes.

Within a few minutes after the bomb had exploded the Hendrick Hudson was in a frenzy of excitement. The seventy-two families in the big building had all distinctly felt the terrific shock of the explosive machine as it was set off by Egan, and many persons ran into the halls and the street, thinking the building was about to fall upon them.

When fully a score of uniformed and plainclothes policemen reached the judge's apartments, in response to a hurried call, they had hard work to force their way into the library. The nervousness and strain attendant upon the explosion still hung about the apartment house long after the explosion occurred.

## Judge Rosalsky Badly Shaken.

Judge Rosalsky was a badly shaken man when he faced the newspaper men after the explosion. He was under such a nervous strain he could not sit still, but had to move continually about the room, pacing from one end to the other. He made a dozen different statements about the case, first saying he would not say anything as to who he thought set the machine, and the next moment speculating as to who he thought might have been responsible.

As to the causes which led up to the bombs being sent to him, Judge Rosalsky was emphatic. Upon receiving the newspaper men at his home, some hours after the accident, he met them in the private hallway of his apartment saying: "Well, gentlemen, come in and see what the newspapers are responsible for."

Egan, who was taken to J. Hood Wright Hospital immediately after the accident, had his wounds dressed and insisted upon returning to Judge Rosalsky's apartments. He left the hospital about 10 o'clock, and when seen in the judge's library a few minutes later, said he was satisfied that the bomb was the handiwork of Italians, and that it was so highly charged he considered it remarkable it had not blown the library to pieces.

Judge Rosalsky, who appeared much affected at the injury to Egan, sat down at his desk and made out a check for \$250, which he pressed into the inspector's hand. He insisted that Egan go to his home in his (the judge's) automobile, and was loud in his praise of Egan's bravery.

## Only Cover of Box Remains.

In trying to run down the perpetrator of the crime, which came so near costing Judge Rosalsky and Egan their lives, the police are confronted by a number of difficulties. First, the wrapping paper in which the package came was so demolished by the force of the explosive without as to make identification by that means almost impossible. Then, the stamps and the postoffice cancelling mark have been entirely lost, it is believed. Not even a trace of the iron piping of which the bomb was made remains, and about the only part of the entire package left intact is the cover of the box.

All accounts agree that the package was delivered at the Hendrick Hudson apartment house in the 4:30 o'clock delivery yesterday afternoon. One of the hallboys received the package from a letter carrier, and he, in turn, handed it to Clara Fish, a negro maid in Judge Rosalsky's home.

The maid took the package and laid it on the desk in the library. It remained there undisturbed until the arrival of the judge, about an hour later. He removed his hat and coat, and then sat down at his desk and began to go over the pile of letters and other mail matter on the table, as is his daily custom.

When Judge Rosalsky saw the package containing the bomb he started to unwrap it in a hurried manner. The address was typewritten, and the outside wrapping paper bore the trademark of a department store at Sixth avenue and 14th street. This struck the judge as being peculiar, especially when he saw the package had three 10-cent

## DIES TO AVOID ARREST

Paroled Convict Shoots Self as Law Officers Approach.

## HAD BEEN LIVING HIGH

John F. Hood, Boston Swindler, Surprised in Flat in Company with Woman.

At the end of a seven weeks' tour of Broadway, at the rate of \$200 a week, exclusive of hotel bills, John F. Hood, the elusive Boston bookkeeper for whom state detectives, police and private agencies have been looking for some time, blew out his brains with a revolver in the house at No. 161 West 54th street yesterday afternoon. The authorities did not discover Hood's hiding place until yesterday, and when they descended on the house he took his life to avoid capture.

Hood was sent to Sing Sing for swindling a diamond concern out of some goods, but was let out on parole last November. After a few weeks he failed to report according to orders, and State Detective Jackson was put on his trail. The sleuth came to New York and began a systematic search, which failed, however, to give up any clue to the whereabouts of the missing clerk.

Meanwhile Hood was having the time of his life about town and spending much money on theatres, dinners, taxis and expensive clothes for the woman who accompanied him, and who told the police yesterday she was Lillian Downing, also of Boston. She said that Hood got a job as travelling salesman for a cigarette concern in Madison avenue, and that after being out on the road for a few weeks he returned bearing with him a supposed order for 100,000 cases of cigarettes. The heads of the firm fell upon Hood's neck with congratulations and a fat commission, both of which he took and immediately disappeared.

It was the proceeds of the giant "order" which had financed the expeditions up and down the "white light district" for the last few weeks. Money had been spent for everything save food and lodging, for when hotel bills got too large Hood and his companion quickly took themselves to another hostelry. In this way the Grand, Park Avenue and Hermitage hotels were done out of considerable sums, it is alleged.

Mrs. Downing told the police last night that the money ran out about a week ago, and that since that time Hood had been very despondent. They were both in their rooms on the fifth floor of the 34th street house about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon when they heard the sound of men's voices in the hallways below.

Hood jumped up and ran out to find out what was going on, and as he leaned over the staircase he saw Detective Jackson and Parole Agent Rogers, of Sing Sing, coming up the stairs. He leaped back into the room, seized Mrs. Downing in his arms and kissed her, and then dodged into the bathroom, slamming the door after him.

The next moment, as the officers broke in, there came the sound of the revolver shot, and Hood was found lying dead on the floor with a bullet hole in his temple. When the body was removed to the morgue 39 cents were found in Hood's pockets. Mrs. Downing says that the dead man had relatives in Boston, and came of a good family there.

## GREENWICH REDUCES TAX RATE.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Greenwich, Conn., March 16.—Greenwich today, in town meeting, made things easier for wealthy New Yorkers and others whose property assessments were largely increased by the assessors, by reducing the tax rate from twelve to nine mills.

## RECORD EGG FROM LEGHORN HEN.

Racine, Wis., March 16.—What is said to be a record size for eggs produced by White Leghorn hens in the United States is an egg found to-day by Mrs. R. M. Boyd, a chicken fancier of this city. The egg measures  $\frac{5}{8}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

## POPE MUST PAY LEGACY TAX.

Milwaukee, March 16.—Pope Plus X will have to pay a \$30 inheritance tax under the laws of Wisconsin, on a \$500 bequest left to him by Johanna Brand, of Milwaukee, who died on January 25, 1911. Of this, \$100 is exempt, the tax being 5 per cent of \$400. Probate Judge John C. Carel made the ruling on application of Rollin B. Mallory, public administrator.

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—Adv.